

THE WESTERN OVERSEAS EXPANSION AND OTTOMAN- HABSBURG STRUGGLE

PART II

THE CENTRALIZING STATE: ORIGINS AND INTERACTIONS

STATE TRANSFORMATION, MONEY, AND FIREARMS

- Rulers of Iberian Peninsula (1150-1400) and Ottoman sultans (1300-1400) – early stages
 - Little cash on hand
 - Compensated military with land grants
- Land grants
 - Parcels of conquered land
 - Generated rental income
- Conquest of cities, control over long-distance trade → change
 - Began collecting taxes in cash
 - Created centralizing state

THE LAND-GRANT SYSTEM

- *Beys* – Ottoman military lords
- Conquests in early 14th century → beys took personal domains on choice conquered lands
 - Took rents from resident villagers → finance dynastic households
 - Also members of their clan, adherents
- Conquest of Anatolia, Balkans → access to money economy
 - Collected taxes in coins → markets, toll booths, Christians and Jews
 - Taxes → adding luxuries to households, construction of palaces



THE LAND-GRANT SYSTEM

- Consequences of conquest (15th and 16th centuries)
 - Expansion of land-grant system, money economy
 - Emergence of entire military ruling class → backbone of army, administration
 - Grant holders – cavalrymen
- Conclusion of period of rapid growth in early 16th century AD → landed ruling class of cavalrymen numbered 80,000
 - Vast reserve of warriors

THE JANISSARIES

- Janissaries
 - Military institution
 - Received salaries from central treasury
 - First documented in 1395
- Formation
 - *Devsirme* → conscripting young Christian boys from empire's population; "blood tax"
 - Boys between the ages of 6 and 16
 - Marched to Istanbul and converted to Islam
 - Trained as future soldiers, administrators
 - Entered central system of palace slaves
 - Counteract power of Ottoman nobles



THE JANISSARIES

- *Devsirme* contradicted Islamic law
 - Forbade enslavement of “peoples of the Book”
 - Ruler → making doctrine, law
- Ottomans → makers of their own law
 - *Kanun*
 - Religious scholars → accepted sultanic imperialism, adapt it to Sharia



THE JANISSARIES



- Early 15th century → Janissaries equipped with cannons, matchlock muskets
 - Far from decisive in battle but sophisticated enough to make a difference
 - Gigantic siege cannons, slow but reliable matchlock muskets
- Relied on indigenous gunsmiths
 - Avoided European artisans

REVENUES AND MONEY

- Precious metals
 - Allowed for salaried standing army, central administration
- Ottoman imperial expansion – influenced in part by need for mineral deposits
 - Serbia
 - Bosnia
- Tax farmers → obliged to buy their right of operation from the government
 - Reimbursed from mining, smelting profits
 - Delivered profits minus commission
 - Also collected head tax from Jews, Christians
 - Crucial members of the ruling class → responsible for cash flow in state
- Tax farming → preferred method of producing cash revenues for central administration

REVENUES AND MONEY

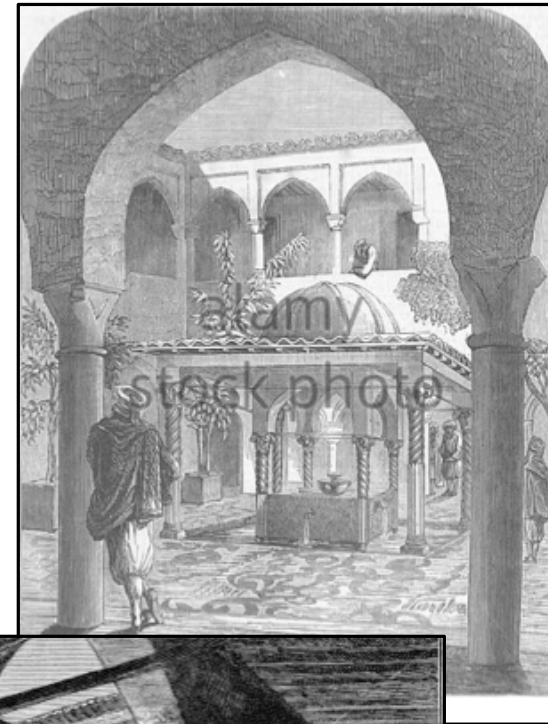
- Tax-farm regime
 - Right to mint silver
 - Market, city gave, port duties
 - Critically dependent on strong sultan, grand vizier
- Needed close supervision or could fall into decentralization
 - Eventually happened

SÜLEYMAN'S CENTRAL STATE

- Centralization of state → apogee under Süleyman I, “the Magnificent” (Source 16.4)
- Financed massive expansion of military and bureaucracy
 - Palace+military+bureaucracy = centralized state
 - Purpose → project power, cultural splendor towards rural subjects, Christian enemies
- Bureaucrats recruited from two population groups
 - Top ministers, officers → *devsirme*
 - Other recruits → colleges in Istanbul, provincial cities
 - Muslims of Christian parents → top layer of elite
 - Muslims of Islamic descent → middle ranks

SÜLEYMAN'S CENTRAL STATE

- Janissaries under Süleyman → 18,000 soldiers
 - 11,000 musket-equipped troopers
 - Cavalry of 5,000
 - 2,000 gunners
- Stationed in barracks in and near Topkapi Palace
 - Also provided service in provinces
- Typical campaigns involved 70,000 soldiers, sophisticated logistics
 - All material needs carried with the troops



CHARLES V'S CENTRALIZING STATE

- Centralization in Spain
 - Political, fiscal reforms of Isabella and Ferdinand
 - Mature phase under Charles V
- Late 15th century onward → Castile, Aragon shared many fiscal characteristics with Ottomans
 - Tax farmers
 - No “head tax” on Muslims but higher taxes
 - Also enforced in Flanders, Burgundy Naples, Sicily, Austria

CHARLES V'S CENTRALIZING STATE

- 1521-1536 → Spanish crown had increased income
 - Aztec, Incan gold and silver
 - Used to finance expedition against Tunis
 - ¼ share from silver mines in Americas after 1545
- Imperial revenues doubled
 - About the same level as the Ottomans

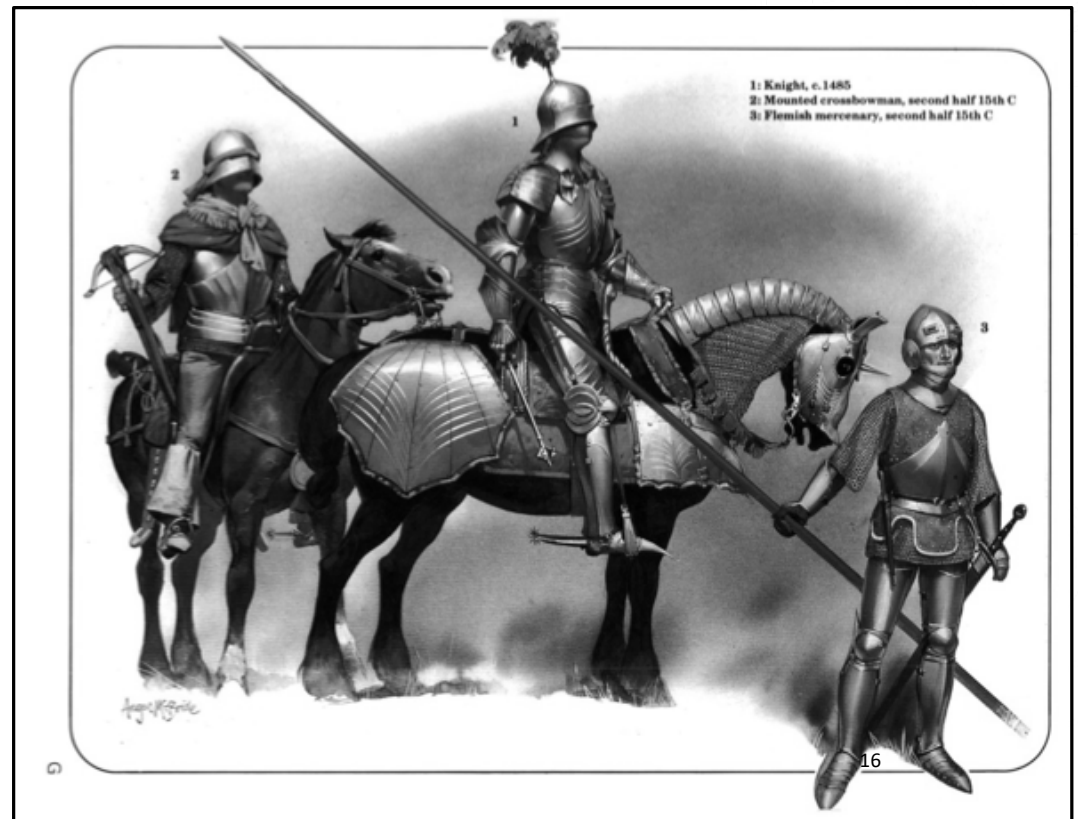


CHARLES V'S CENTRALIZING STATE

- Significant point of difference between Habsburg Empire, Ottomans
 - Cavalry ruling class of Ottomans was nonhereditary
 - Spain → landholders met regularly in parliaments → could enforce their property rights
- Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand had to wrestle with powerful, landed aristocracy
- Habsburg Spain less centralized than Ottoman Empire

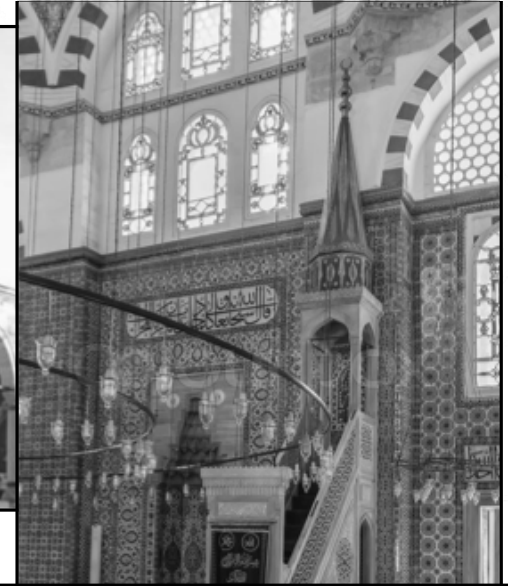
CHARLES V'S CENTRALIZING STATE

- Overcome lack of power, weakness of tax base
 - Italian, Flemish cities
 - American colonies
- Finances remained precarious
 - Few aristocrats fulfilled traditional obligation of unpaid military service or forced king to pay them
- Administration, military hired as many Italians, Flemings, Germans as possible
 - Foot soldiers with muskets



IMPERIAL COURTS, URBAN FESTIVITIES, AND THE ARTS

THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE



- No traditions of official public art except architecture
 - Explosion of mosque construction during 16th century
- Images banned by sharia
 - Pictorial artistry found only inside privacy of Ottoman palace
- Theater, music enjoyed support on the popular level





THE TOPKAPI PALACE

- Following fall and sacking of Constantinople in 1453, sultans initiated large construction projects
 - Covered markets (Source 16.3)
 - New palace for the sultan
 - Craftspeople, traders
- 1600 → city had a population of close to 500,000

THE TOPKAPI PALACE

- “Palace of the Cannon Gate”
 - Constructed 1459
 - Named in 19th century
- Mini-city
 - Three courtyards
 - Formal gardens
 - Forested hunting grounds
 - Main administrative school for bureaucrats
 - Barracks for Janissaries
 - Armory
 - Hospital
 - Harem for ruling family





THE TOPKAPI PALACE

- Institution of the harem → rise to prominence under Süleyman I
 - Sultans no longer pursued marriage alliances
 - Chose slave concubines for procreation of children
 - Usually from the Caucasus, other frontier regions
 - Often Christian
 - Slaves → deprived of family attachments
 - Bearing a son = privileges
- Head Eunuch
 - Powerful intermediary between sultan's mother and ministers, generals
- Sultan's mother arranged marriages of her daughters²¹ (*Valide Sultan*)

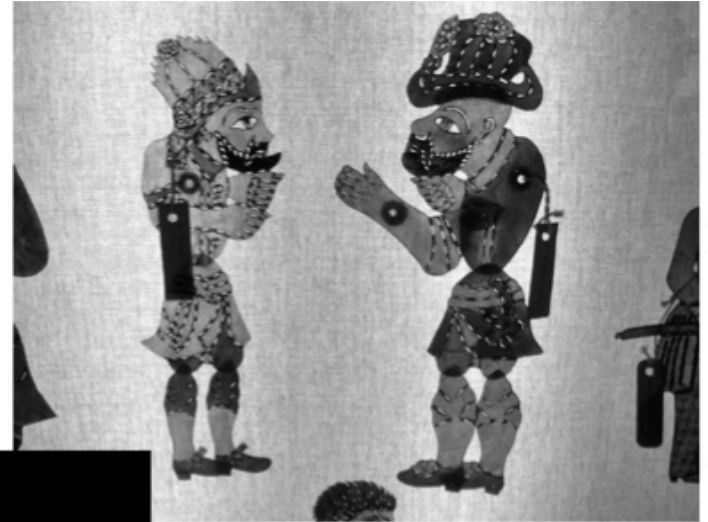
PUBLIC FESTIVITIES

- Feast, celebrations → displayed state's largesse, benevolence
 - Feast of Breaking the Fast
 - Feast of Sacrifice
 - Festive processions, fairs
 - Birthday of Muhammad
 - "Night Journey"
- Hippodrome
- Golden Horn
- Fireworks



POPULAR THEATER

- Evenings of Ramadan
 - Festive meals
 - Karagöz ("Black Eye")
- Shadow theater
 - Figures cut from thin, transparent leather
 - Movable jaws, limbs
 - Cloth screen
 - Ritual of circumcision – rite of passage for boys between 6 and 12



MOSQUE ARCHITECTURE

- Imperial mosques
- Sinan
 - Devsirme
 - More than 300 religious, secular buildings
 - 25,000 laborers → rapid completion of mosques
- Primary mosques inspired by Hagia Sophia



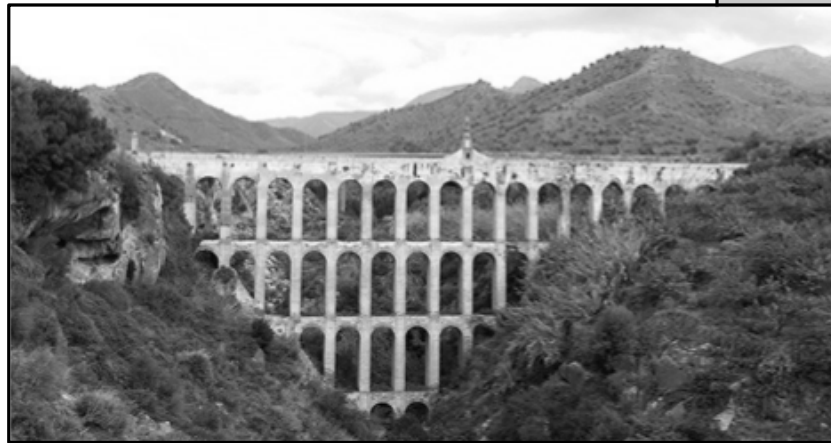
THE SPANISH HABSBURG EMPIRE: CAPITAL AND PALACE

- Habsburgs focused relatively late on capital city, palace
 - Charles V → Alhambra – not central enough
 - El Escorial → palace and monastery complex; 1563-1584



THE SPANISH HABSBURG EMPIRE: CAPITAL AND PALACE

- Madrid → seat of administration, the court
 - Roman-Gothic foundations
 - 12,000 inhabitants
 - Public festivals, latest news
- Architecture
 - Emphasized Roman imperial style



CHRISTIAN STATE FESTIVITIES

- 16th century – Catholicism was the majority religion
 - Powerful unifying force
- Strong linguistic differences among the provinces
- Observance of feast days
 - Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, Corpus Christi, saints' feast days
 - Passion plays
 - Processions for Holy Week
 - Processions for Corpus Christi



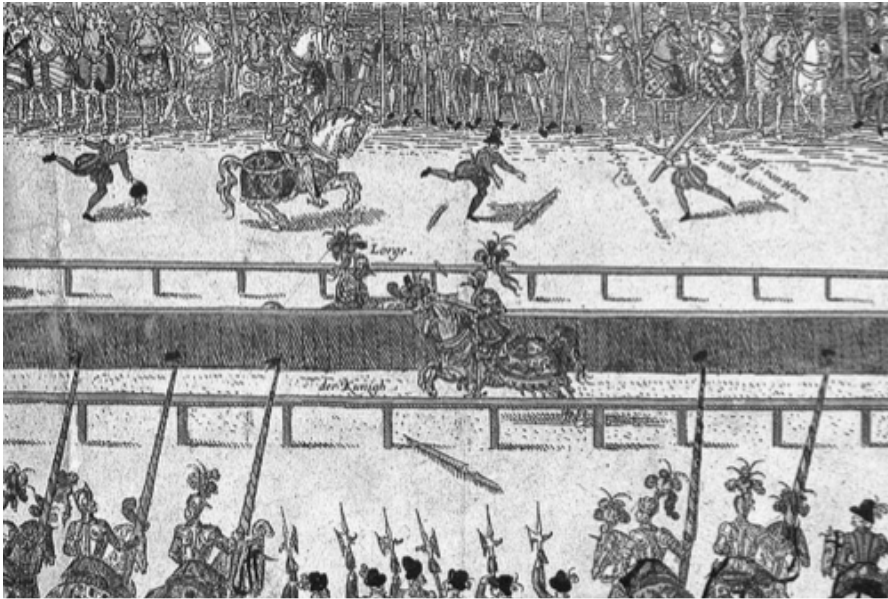
THE AUTO-DA-FÉ

- Auto-da-fé (Act of faith) → public or private
 - Solemnized person's return to the Church
 - Penance for those found guilty of heresy, apostasy
 - First appear in France in 1242
- Inquisition – enforce unity, purity of Spanish Catholicism; 1478-1834
 - 1480-1510 → most active years
 - Over 350 year period: 150,000 charged, 3,000-5,000 executed



POPULAR FESTIVITIES

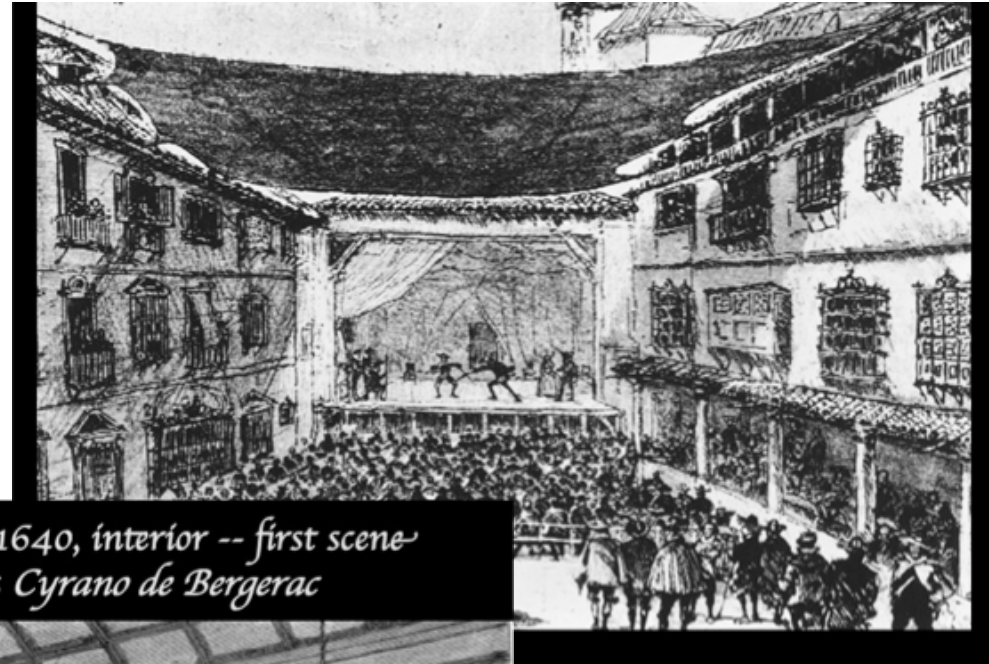
- Jousts
 - Secular, primarily aristocratic events
 - Connected with royal events
 - Mounted combatants
 - Evolved into exhibitions in dressage → Spanish Court Riding School
- Bullfights
 - Secular
 - Fought on horseback
 - Wild animals, including bulls
 - Originated from Roman custom
 - Aristocratic pastime, spectators from local estates ²⁹



Die Inhabiliten im Kampf, — Bildnis de G. Dant.

THEATER AND LITERATURE

- Secular theater
 - Origins in passion plays, Corpus Christi processions
- Earlier centuries – traveling troupes performed on wagons
 - Stationary theaters
- Typical performance
 - Musical prelude, prologue
 - Three acts of drama, comedy
 - Brief sketches filled the breaks
- Subjects
 - Betrayed or unrequited love
 - Honor
 - Justice
 - Peasant-nobility conflicts





THEATER AND LITERATURE

- Hugely successful
 - Sponsorship of courtiers, magistrates, merchants
- Miguel de Cervantes
 - *Don Quixote*

PAINTERS

- El Greco – Domenikos Theotokopoulos
 - Crete, Venice, Rome
 - Spanish Catholicism
 - Variation of mannerist style

